

# Wyoming: Where Power Transmission & Generation Meet

**Wyoming Infrastructure  
Authority**



**Loyd G. Drain  
Executive Director**

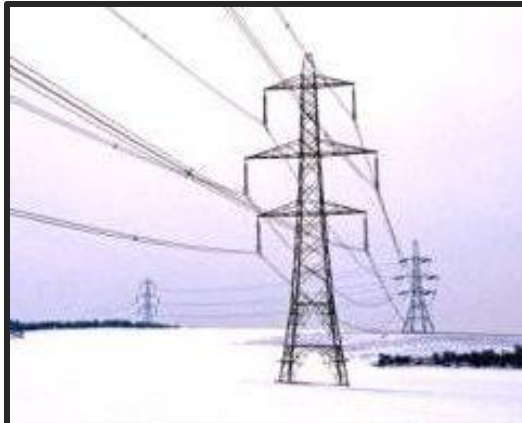
## **Meeting Transmission Challenges in the Rocky Mountain Region**

**June 21, 2011  
Fort Collins, CO**

***Given our vast resources,  
we're the Energy Gateway  
to the West***



**INFRASTRUCTURE AUTHORITY**  
*An Instrumentality of the State of Wyoming*



**Natural Gas-Fired Power**

## Wyoming

- *Wyoming is #1 in total energy produced in the U.S.*
- *#1 in coal production—PRB coal is marketed in 37 states*
- *#2 in natural gas production*
- *#1 in uranium reserves*
- *#1 in developable Class 6 & 7 wind resource in the West*
- *In the last year, WY has added 2BCFD+ of gas pipeline capacity*
  - *El Paso's Ruby Line from Opal, WY to Malin, OR: 1.5 BCFD*
  - *TransCanada's Bison Line from NE WY to ND: .477 BCFD*
  - *MidAmerican's Kern River expansion (WY to CA): .145 BCFD*



# Wyoming Infrastructure Authority

- *Created in 2004 by the Wyoming Legislature---*  
<http://legisweb.state.wy.us/statutes/statutes.aspx?file=titles/Title37/T37CH5.htm>
- *Mission: diversify and expand the state's economy through improvements in the transmission grid*
- *Tools:*
  - *Can plan, finance, site, own, operate and otherwise promote transmission projects—model used contemplates plan & development only (i.e. no construction, ownership or operating role)*
  - *\$10 million venture account to develop projects*
  - *\$1 billion in bonding capability to help finance transmission projects*



# Wyoming Infrastructure Authority

## Structure:

- Five (5) member Governor-appointed Board of Directors
  - **Mike Easley**, Chairman: CEO of Powder River Corporation
  - **Kyle White**, Vice-Chairman: VP of Regulatory and Governmental Affairs Black Hills Corporation
  - **Bryce Freeman**, Treasurer: Administrator of the Wyoming Office of Consumer Affairs
  - **J.M. Shafer**, member: Former executive with both Tri-State and Western Area Power Administration
  - **Dave Sparks**, member: Executive Vice President with TransCore
- Staff
  - **Loyd Drain**, Executive Director
  - **Holly Martinez**, Administrative Manager
  - **Rob Hurless**, Energy Consultant
  - **Tom Dennis**, Cassidy & Associates; and other Consulting Support



# *Transmission Authorities in the West*

*Eight States have dedicated varying resources to support transmission infrastructure and Development*

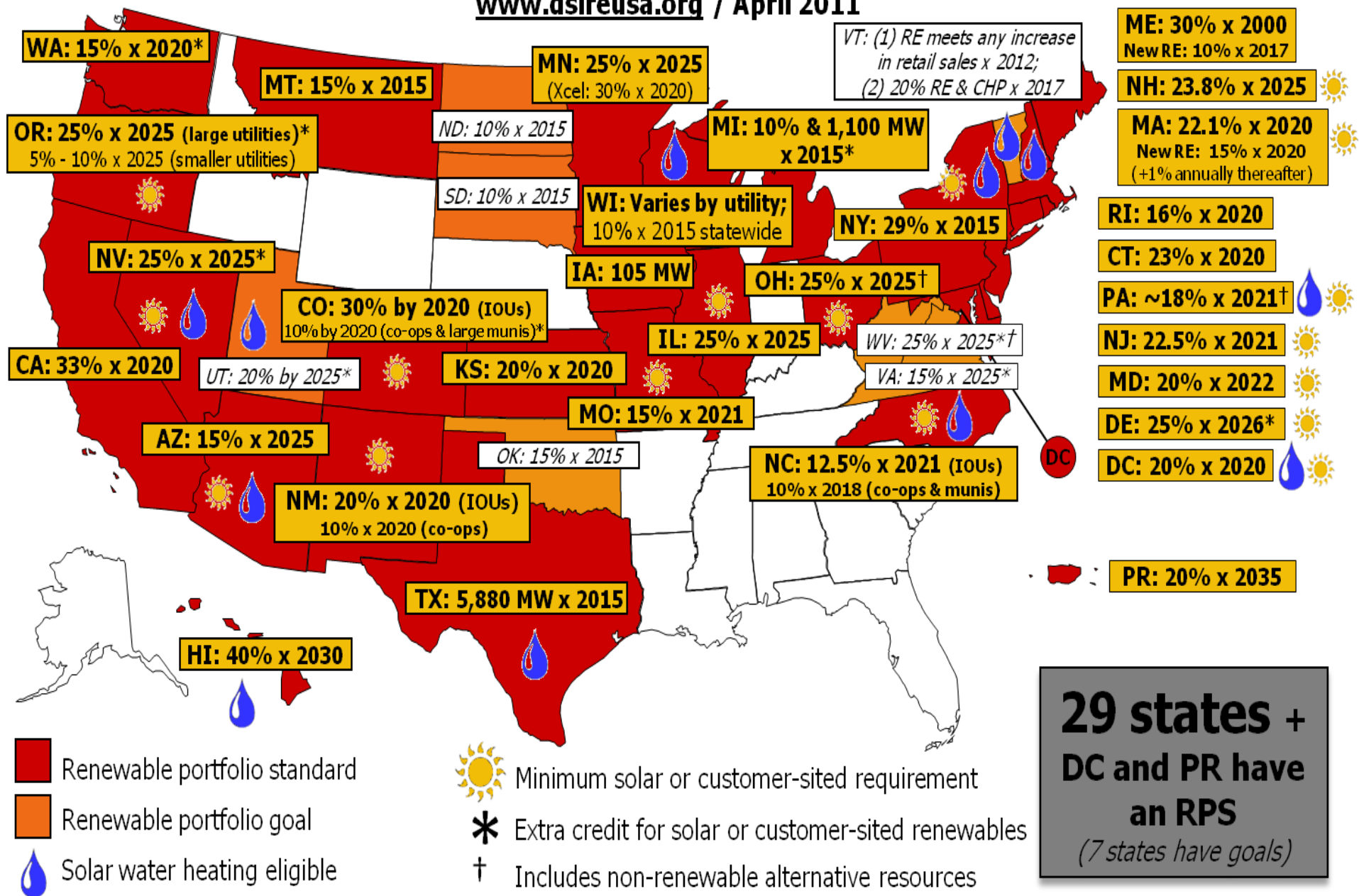


- *Wyoming Infrastructure Authority (2004)*
- *Idaho Energy Resources Authority (2005)*
- *Kansas Electric Transmission Authority (2005)*
- *North Dakota Transmission Authority (2005)*
- *South Dakota Energy Infrastructure Authority (2005)*
- *Colorado Clean Energy Development Authority (2007)*
- *New Mexico Renewable Energy Transmission Authority (2007)*
- *Utah Generated Renewable Energy Electricity Network (2010)--**Latest***



# RPS Policies

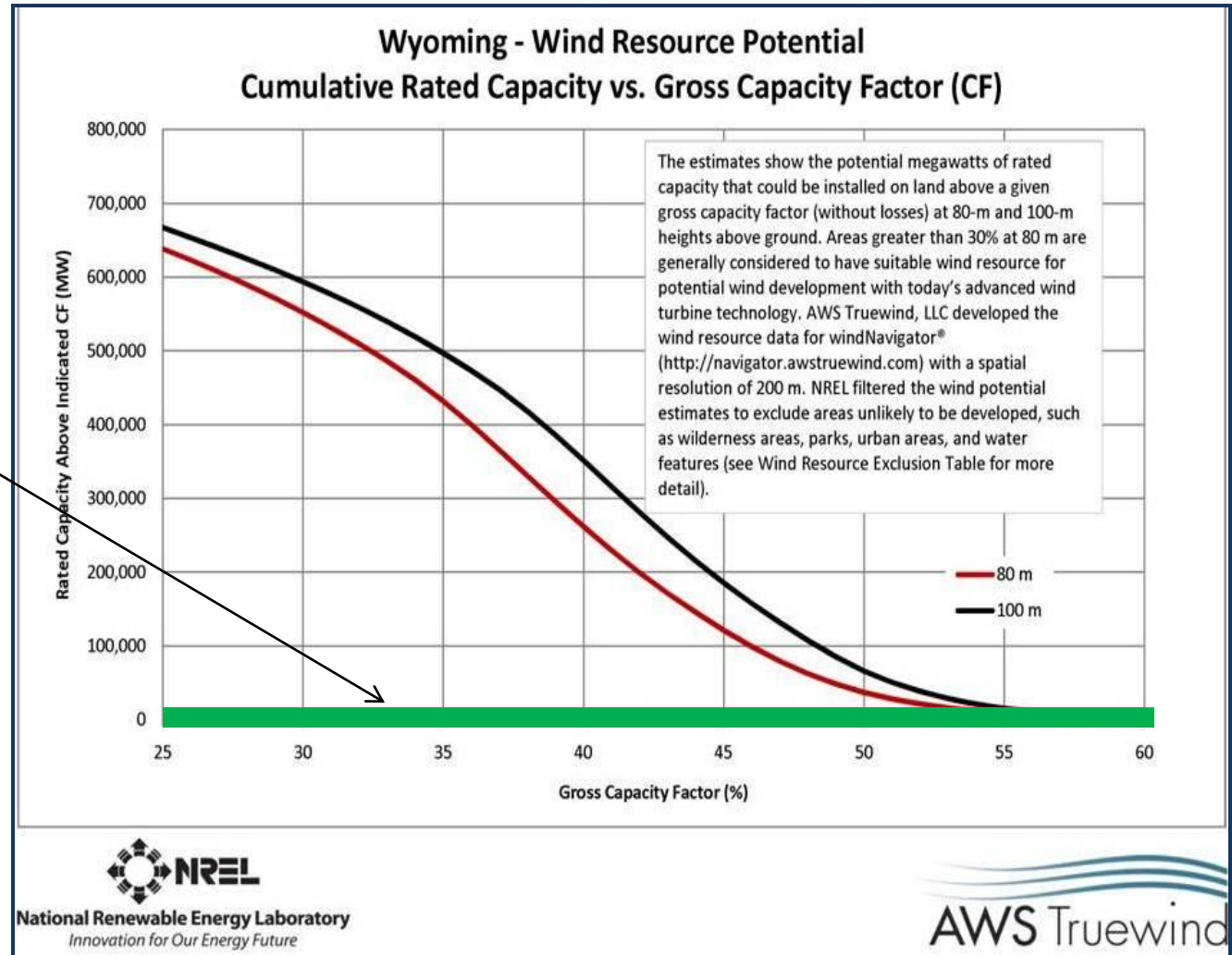
[www.dsireusa.org](http://www.dsireusa.org) / April 2011



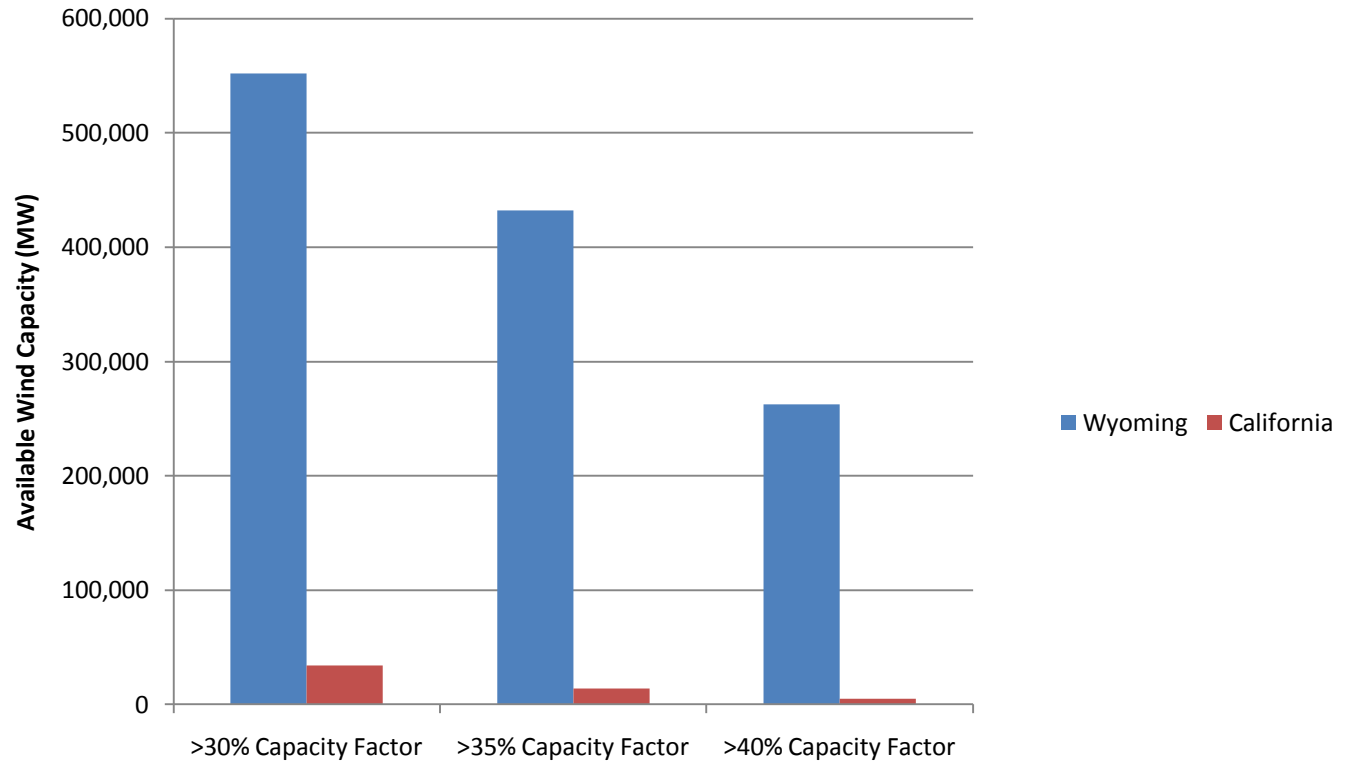


# Wind Quality and Availability in Wyoming

*Amount of transmission and wind development that is possible to be constructed in the next 10 years*



# Wind Quality Comparisons WY vs. CA











# Transmission Projects under development in Wyoming



## Projects

Wyoming-Colorado Interie	
Energy Gateway (West & South)	
TransWest Express	
High Plains Express	
Zephyr	
Overland Transmission	



*Routes shown are for illustrative purposes only & will be finalized following the permitting and siting process*

## Energy Gateway

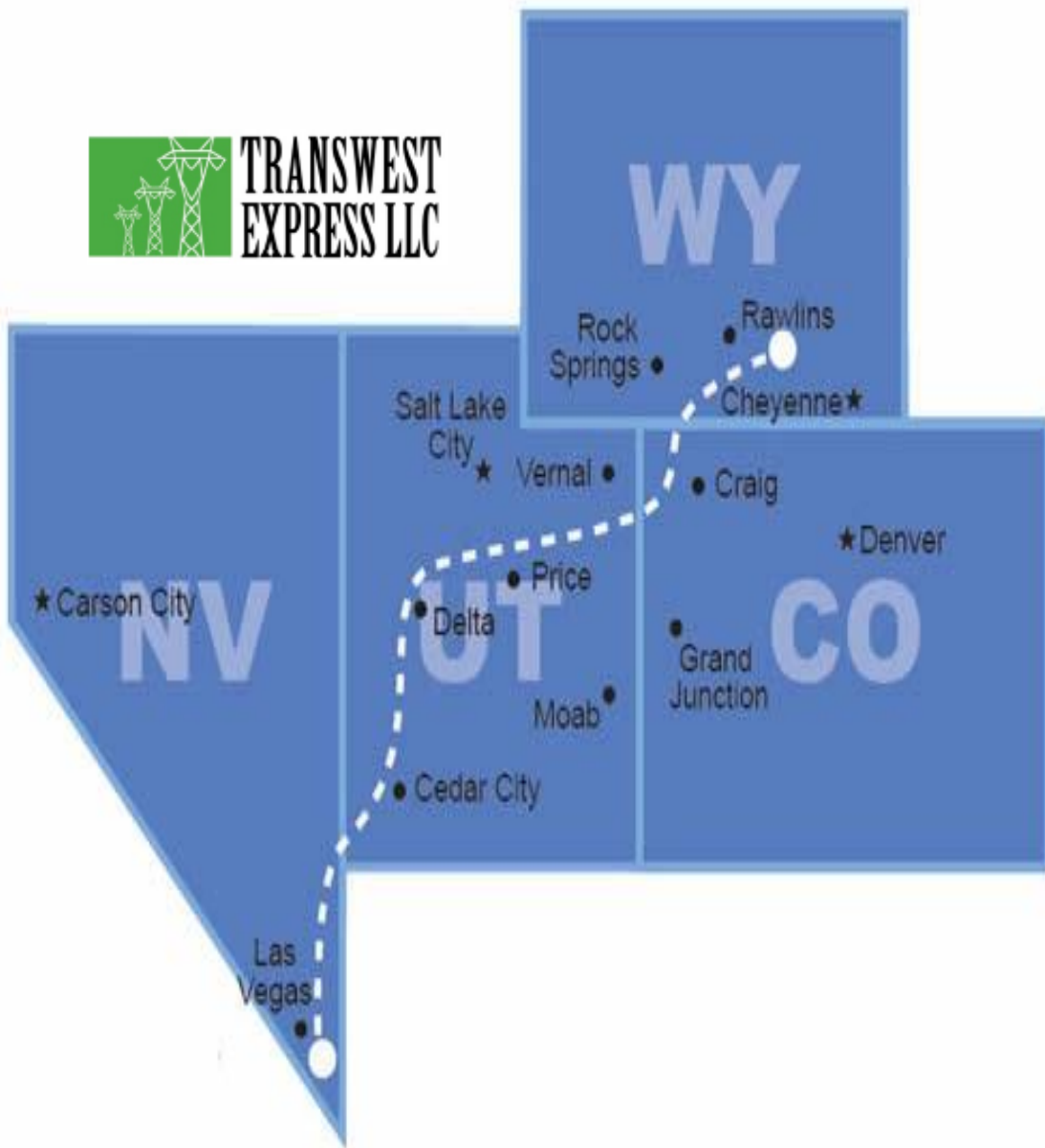


## Energy Gateway Projects

*PacifiCorp/MEHC & Idaho Power: 3,000 MW total from WY to Idaho & Utah*  
*2,000 miles when complete*  
*2014-2019--\$6.1 billion*  
*500 kV and 230 kV AC*

*Scoping meetings relative to the NEPA process have commenced*





## **TransWest Express Project**

*TransWest Express, LLC:  
3,000 MW from WY to  
CAISO south of Las Vegas  
600 kV DC line—725 miles  
As early as 2015  
\$3 billion*

*Western Area Power  
Administration has signed a  
non-binding agreement to  
participate in up to 50% of  
the Project--WAPA serves  
as a Joint Lead Agency  
in the NEPA process*



## **Zephyr Project**

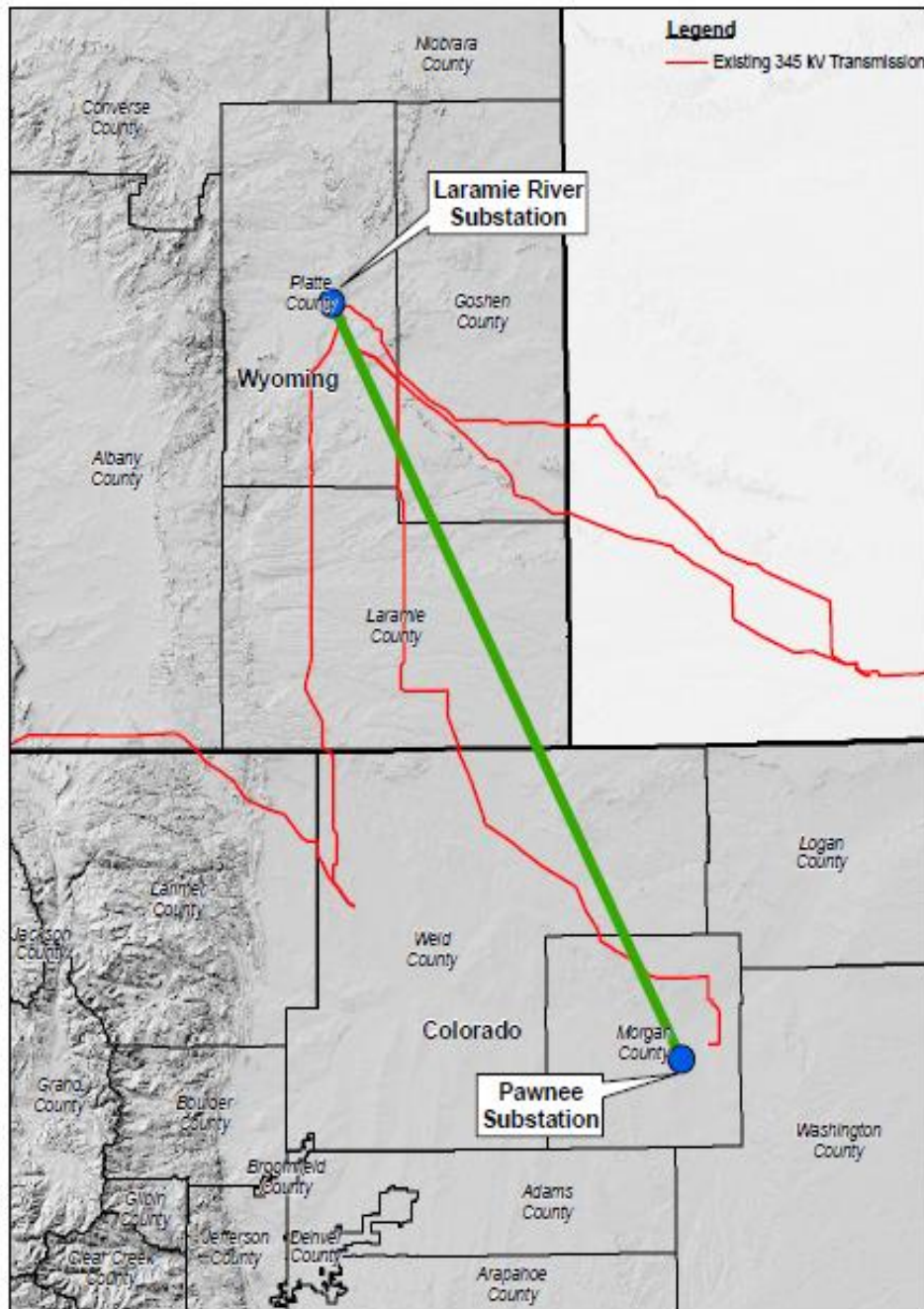
*TransCanada: 3,000 MW from WY to a DC/AC converter station south of Las Vegas*

*Double-circuit 500 kV DC  
1,100 Miles as early as 2016  
\$3 billion*

*Open season results—  
Pathfinder, Horizon & BP  
have subscribed 100%  
of the capacity*







## Wyoming-Colorado Intertie Project

*LS Power & WIA—850 MW  
from LRS to Colorado*

*345 kV Line AC—180 miles*

*As early as 2013*

*\$180 million*

*The WIA has a 50% interest  
in the development of this project  
and its investment will be returned  
upon financing*



## Overland Intertie Project

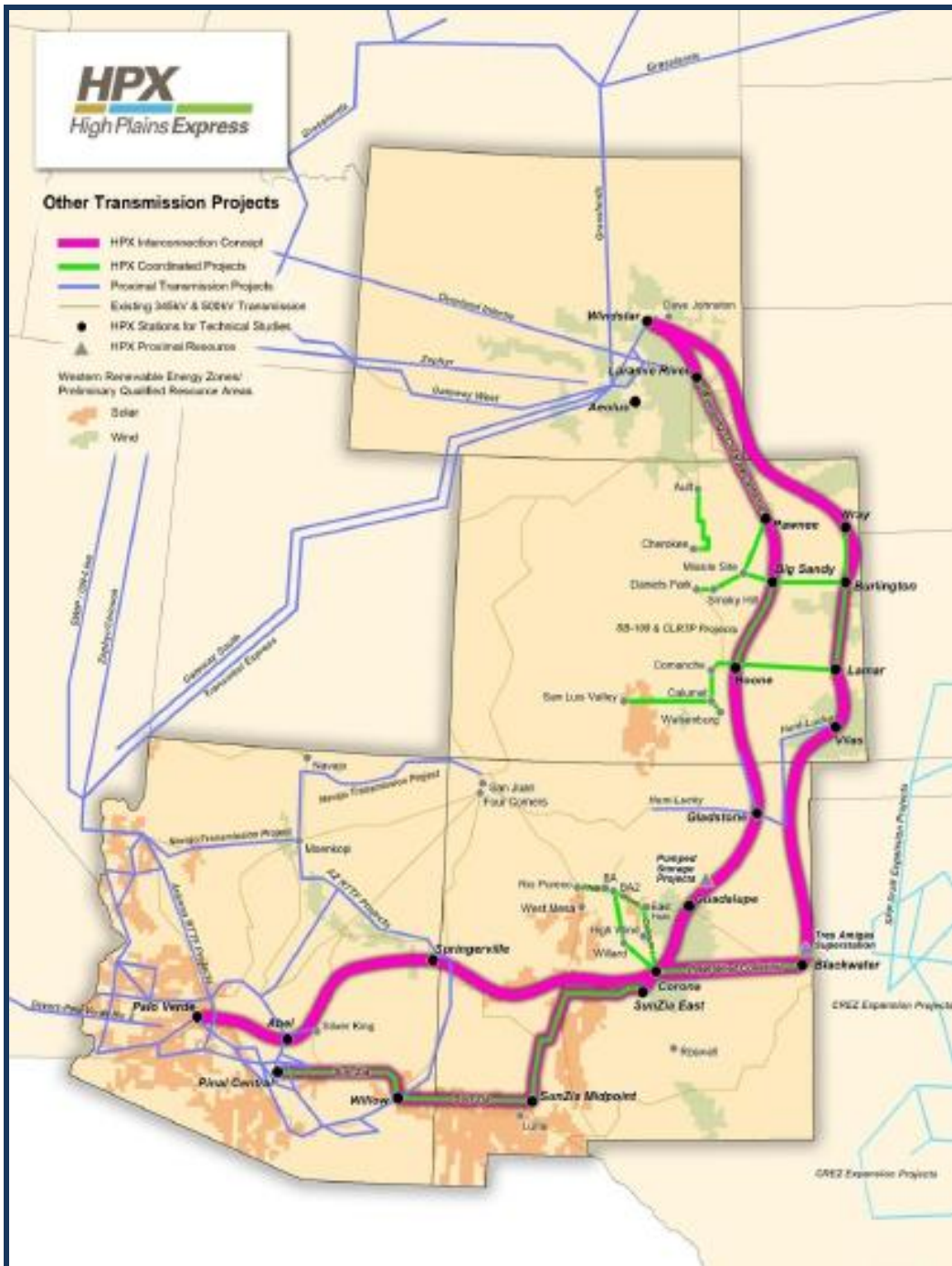
*Jade Energy Associates,  
LLC (an affiliate of LS  
Power: up to 3,000 MW  
from WY to Midpoint in  
Idaho to interconnect with  
SWIP*

*Double-circuit 500 kV DC*

*As early as 2016—625  
miles--\$1 billion +*







## High Plains Express Project

*3,500 MW from WY to CO,  
NM and AZ*

*Double-circuit 500 kV AC  
line--\$5 billion*

The Project participants include:

- Black Hills Corporation
- Colorado Clean Energy Development Authority
- Colorado Springs Utility
- LS Power
- New Mexico Renewable Energy Transmission Authority
- NextEra Energy Resources
- Public Service Company of New Mexico
- Salt River Project
- Tri-State Generation & Transmission Assoc.
- Western Area Power Administration
- Wyoming Infrastructure Authority
- Xcel Energy



*A 3,000 MW DC Converter Station which covers approximately  
160 acres*



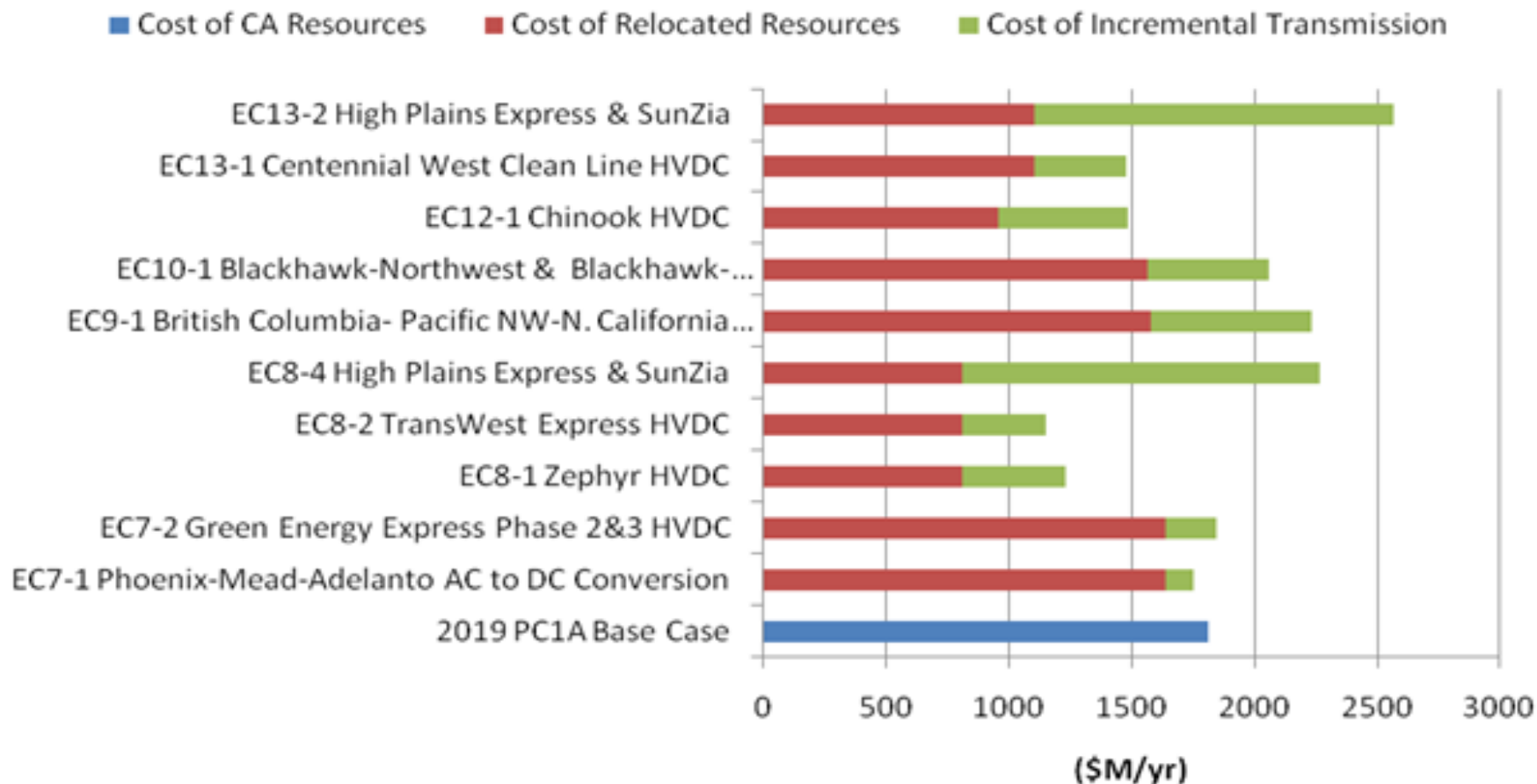
## *Important Issues being addressed*

- *Exploring ways to mitigate the time required and cost relative to the NEPA process which currently takes 4 to 5 years at a cost of \$40 to \$60 million*
- *A market that wants to develop indigenous renewable resources*
- *Recognizing that every renewable project has an associated cost component, the WIA is confident that load serving entities in the marketplace and their associated regulators will seek to source renewable supplies that will have the least economic impact on the ultimate consumers, residential and commercial rate payers*
- *Studies suggest that Wyoming wind will provide geographical diversity benefits when combined with renewable resources closer to the load which will result in the mitigation of ramping events with a corresponding savings relative to integration costs*
- *Wyoming's Joint Revenue Committee has been tasked with reviewing the current tax policy on wind*
  - *had a meeting in Saratoga in May, 2011*
  - *Scheduled to meet in Buffalo on August 25-26*



## Preliminary Data from WECC 10 year plan

### Capital Cost Comparison of Resource Relocation with Similar-Sized Transmission Expansion



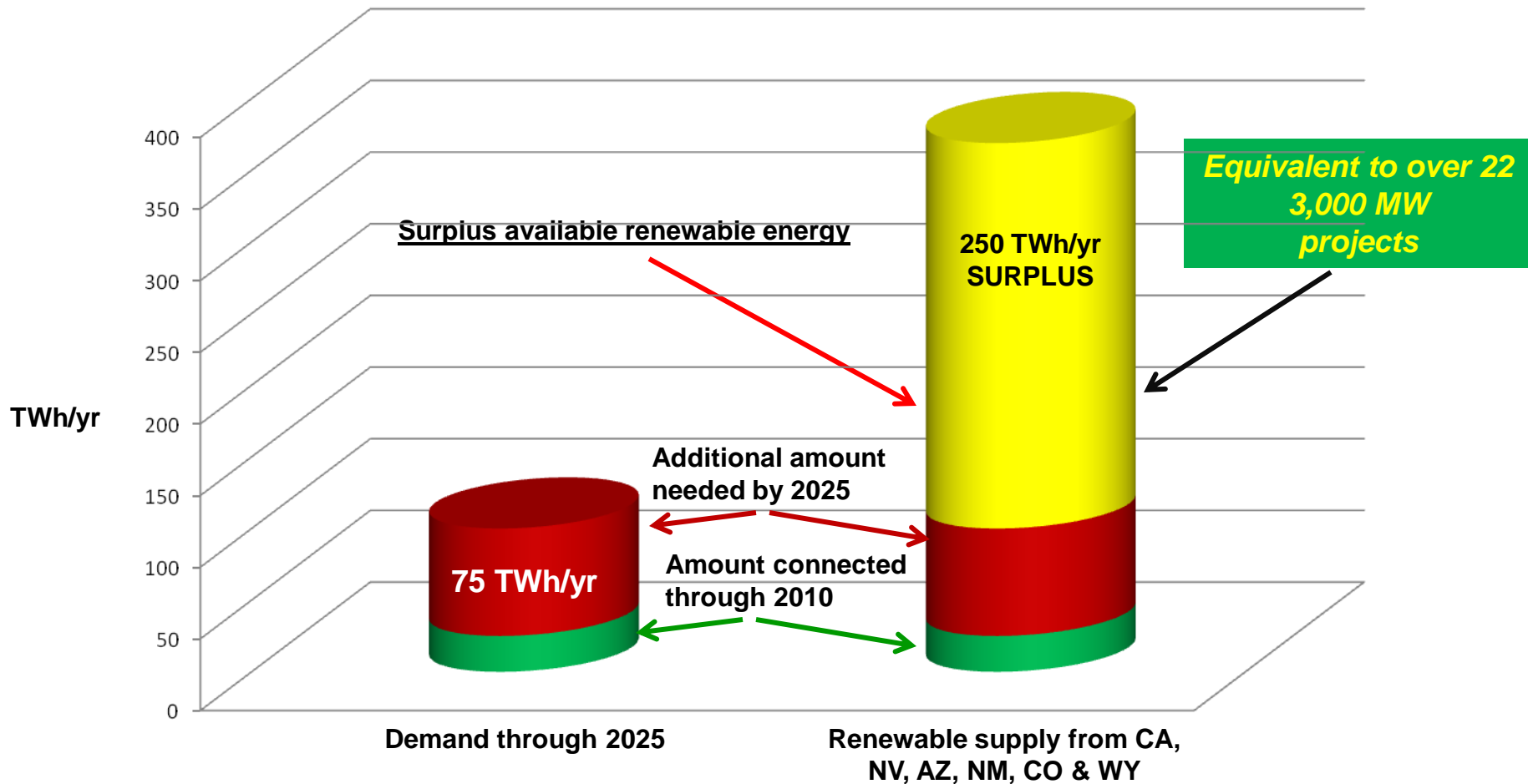




# Market Information

## CA renewable demand vs. supply

California accounts for 2/3 of the renewable demand in the west



**WHAT ABOUT THE COST OF EACH RENEWABLE SUPPLY??**

*Based on data from NREL; the Sierra Club; and two (2) 3,000 MW Wyoming-based renewable energy projects*



## **NREL Economic Benefits & Job Creation Study**

- *The WIA commissioned NREL in 2010 to conduct a study which will consider the following development:*
  - *9,000 MW of transmission to the marketplace*
  - *9,000 MW of wind generation*
  - *10,800 MW collector system*
  - *1,800 MW of natural gas-fired generation*
- *The benefits of such 9,000 MW of development would result in:*
  - *\$11.8 to \$14.8 billion in additional economic output to our State (includes construction period and 20 years of operations)*
  - *2,300 to 2,600 permanent jobs during 20 years of operation*
- *\$20,000 DOE grant was applied-for and obtained mitigating WIA's cost*



# **Questions?**

**For more information, please visit our website at [www.wyia.org](http://www.wyia.org)  
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